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NEWS FROM WASHINGTON.

OUR SPECIAL DESPATCHES.
NO REMARKS YET—NO QUOIDS IN THE SENATE TILL AFTER NEW YEAR'S—NO MESSAGE—NO ACTION IN THE CASE OF COL. FRENCH—NO KNOWING WHO WILL SUCCEED MR. BUCHANAN, ETC.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20, 1855.

All is still in the dark as to who will be Speaker. To-day an attempt was made to stave off an adjournment and have an evening session, but it failed. Even if they should organize to-morrow, (Saturday) nothing could be done, as the Senate adjourned over till Monday.

A large number of Senators left this evening, and will not be back until after the holidays. General Cass informed me this evening that he did not think there would be a quorum till after New Year's. Thus, if the House should organize, the message could not be read.

Col. French, the Nicaraguan Minister, left for the North to-day, and will not return for some days. The Cabinet yet have taken no action in his case.

I learn from a reliable source that the President has not even thought of Senator Incey's name in connection with Minister to England.

THE ENGINEERS OF THE FUSIONISTS—DEPARTURE OF COL. FRENCH—ALLEGED CASE OF JUDICIAL MALPRACTICE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20, 1855.

The fusionists have a meeting in the morning to determine whether they will press a vote to-morrow. If they do, I am inclined to believe that Mr. Banks will be elected. It may, however, be postponed until after the holidays.

Col. Parker H. French left for New York this evening, to superintend the shipment of Nicaraguan emigrants by the steamer on Monday next. He stops at the St. Nicholas.

On the trial of the case of Kessell vs. The St. Louis Public Schools, in the Supreme Court to-day, it was shown that Judge H. R. Gamble, of Missouri, who had previously received a fee of two hundred dollars for an opinion as his counsel.

The opinion and decision are in direct conflict. It is said to be a case justifying impeachment.

WILL THE NEW MINISTER FROM NICARAGUA BE RE-CHIEF?—IS THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE IN PRINT?

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20, 1855.

Colonel Parker H. French sent his private secretary last evening, with a copy of his credentials as Minister from Nicaragua, to Mr. Marcy. An answer will probably be returned to-morrow; and, as I indicated in my previous despatch, I have the best of reasons for believing that the want of some civil confirmation of Walker's authority in Nicaragua will be assigned by our government as the reason for refusing to receive Col. French as Minister at present. Col. French left for New York this afternoon, to return on the 20th inst.

In spite of your correspondent's statement to the contrary, I know that the President's Message is in print at the White House.

R.

JUDGE DOUGLAS IMPROVING, ETC.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20, 1855.

Judge Douglas has written to his friends that although suffering severely from an excruciating throat, he expects to be in Washington early in January.

The report that the original copy of the Declaration of Independence has been stolen from the Patent Office, and a counterfeit one substituted, is untrue. The original has been safe for fourteen years undisturbed.

THIRTY-FOURTH CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20, 1855.

PRIVATE CLAIMS.

Mr. Buchanan, (dem.) of Pa., from the Committee on Claims, submitted a report that all private claims on which adverse reports were made, or ordered, during the last session of Congress, which were pending at its close, and which claims are founded upon any law of Congress or regulation of the executive departments, or contract, express or implied, with government, and which the claimants chose to prosecute before the Court of Claims, were referred to and Court.

The report was adopted.

THE ILLINOIS SENATE.

On motion of Mr. Cass, (dem.) of Mich., the protest of members of the Illinois Legislature against the election of Mr. Trumbull, was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Trumbull presented evidence showing that he ceased to be Judge, and was succeeded by another, two years before his election to the Senate.

The evidence was similarly referred, and the Senate adjourned until Monday.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20, 1855.

THE SPEAKER.

The House resumed voting for a Speaker, with the following results:

Banks..... 104 Fullerton..... 34 Richardson..... 73 Scattergood..... 19

Mr. Scott, (R. N.) of Ala., said that the result of the vote just announced is a fairly fair indication that no result will be reached to-day. Wishing to promote by degrees the business of the House, he proposed to proceed to the selection of two standing committees—one to be the Committee of Ways and Means, and the other Foreign Affairs—the Northern party nominating four members thereof, the administration party three, and the corporeal guard of the South, assisted by members from the North, two. These committees to select their chairman by a majority vote, the chairman to preside over the ordinary business of the House after-nately till the speaker is elected. He proposed that one hour be devoted to the introduction of bills, to be hereafter referred to the appropriate committees, members to be sworn in by the Chairman of the Committees on Ways and Means; the House next to proceed to the election of a Clerk, Postmaster, Sergeant-at-Arms, Bookkeeper, and last, but not least, a Chaplain, through whose prayers, perhaps, some evil may be thrown on the troubled waters. This is no time for exhortation and recrimination. We want harmony and concord.

Several gentlemen opined that the plan specified in the law of 1789 was in the way, as it requires that a Speaker and Clerk shall first be elected, and members sworn in by the speaker, before proceeding to any other business.

It was remarked that unless some such plan was adopted public business must suffer.

Mr. Cowan, (dem.) of Pa., commended his democratic friends to adhere to their position and platoons.

Mr. McMillian, (dem.) of Va., warned the Southern members that they must not run the risk of alienating their friends and thus rendering the Missouri Compromise and repealing the fugitive slave law, the Union might, and will be dissolved—the declaration of that fatal gray cloud.

Mr. Zorn, (dem.) of Tenn., urged the reasons why he could support neither the Bank nor the Banker, saying that he and his friends stand on middle and natural grounds which all might occupy without compromising principles.

Mr. Brown, (dem.) of Tennessee, contended that however patriotic the American party may be, they are by their votes making the extension of the naturalization law paramount to every other consideration.

Mr. Cox, (N. Y.) of N.Y., recognized no one as a member of the Northern party who did not stand on the twelfth article of the Whig platform. He said a Speaker could be elected immediately if Democrats would come over to his side, but Americans have no power to carry over all their force to his standard.

Adjourned.

OUR WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENCE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19, 1855.

STATE OF AFFAIRS IN MEXICO.—Imperial Dispatch from General Gadsden—Instruction to Major—The Mexican Government in Process of Formation—The Cuban Democratic Convention—Preparations of Washington for the War to Be Played There.

A letter is in this city from General Gadsden, our Minister to Mexico, giving a detailed account of the late conspiracy to overthrow the existing government of that country, and setting forth the intent with which communicated to him by several of the most prominent Mexican citizens, for the interference of the United States in placing masters in that country on a solid basis. Hence as it may seem, it is believed by many intelligent Mexicans that the President of the United States has sent to order an army there, with General Scott at its head, to have that order obeyed to the letter; and doubtless at this moment, if the General could but make his appearance in that city again, he would find but little opposition to the entrance of his army, while he would receive the homage of a large portion of its inhabitants. I am

further informed that a combination of the wealth and responsibility of Mexico has been formed for the purpose of inviting American aggression into the country, with the ultimate hope of forcing upon the Mexicans the necessity of annexation to the United States. This fact is not unknown to General Gadsden, and the real which in public he exhibits to prevent Texan incursions into the country, is but to discourage attempts that would end in a failure, and preclude the public mind against any subsequent aggression.

It will be recollect that immediately after Santa Anna's flight, General Gadsden was privately and publicly charged by members of the provisional government with design upon the independence of Mexico, which he defended with great energy, and which was well founded. To what extent the General is now chargeable with political interference in Mexican affairs is yet to be ascertained; but our government here is equally entitled, if accused of the conduct of its representatives, which it has seen fit to withdraw from the Bench—my resignation, herein tendered, to take effect at the end of the present month.

The that has led me to the course adopted is, that there are those among my fellow citizens who are of the opinion that although, accused in fact of the charge preferred against me, and innocent in truth of all criminal conduct in the matter complained of, the late terrible ordeal through which I have passed has, in a greater or less degree, impaired my present usefulness as City Judge, and that I have since been tried and acquitted by a jury of my fellow citizens. Of that trial, with the circumstances and matters that led to it, I will not speak in this communication, except so far, indeed, as is necessary in respect to the course I feel it my duty to pursue; for, however without guilt in the late calamity under which I have suffered, it is my purpose, for the reasons following, to withdraw from the Bench—my resignation, herein tendered, to take effect at the end of the present month.

The cause of this is the following:—I have been charged with an offence in my official character of City Judge, and that I have since been tried and acquitted by a jury of my fellow citizens. Of that trial, with the circumstances and matters that led to it, I will not speak in this communication, except so far, indeed, as is necessary in respect to the course I feel it my duty to pursue; for, however without guilt in the late calamity under which I have suffered, it is my purpose, for the reasons following, to withdraw from the Bench—my resignation, herein tendered, to take effect at the end of the present month.

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